



DOC NewsLine


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“Achievement + Support = Positive”

Significant Achievements

Submitted by Jean Wall

 When Governor M.J. “Mike” Foster, Jr., asked agency heads to submit information about the most significant initiatives they had carried out during his tenure as Governor, Secretary Richard L. Stalder submitted ten:

- **The Angola Levee Project**
- **Governor and Mrs. M.J. “Mike” Foster’s Project Clean-Up**
- **The Children’s Initiative**
- **ACA Accreditation**
- **Basic Jail Guidelines: A Correctional Coalition**
- **CORE: Corrections Organized for Re-entry**
- **The Restorative Justice Project**
- **Faith-Based Programming**
- **The Youthful Offender Pilot Program**
- **Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention**

Since the first initiative listed is perhaps the least widely known within the department, here are excerpts, beginning with an explanation of benefits: A breached inner levee at Louisiana State Penitentiary would do an estimated \$3 billion in damage and require the evacuation of 5100 maximum security custody inmates. The project, directed by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, significantly decreased the likelihood of these events occurring and enabled the state to redirect resources previously used for emergency repairs and preventive measures.

Background: The 18,000-acre Louisiana State Penitentiary, surrounded on three sides by the Mississippi River, has repeatedly faced serious


threat of flooding. That circumstance was made worse by the prison’s substandard levees, the only ones along the river not engineered and monitored by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. When record-high floodwaters threatened to overwhelm the prison in 1997 and sand boils (water forcing through a layer of sand soil underneath the levee to “boil” up on the dry side) grew in size and number, Governor M.J. “Mike” Foster, Jr., pledged to seek federal assistance and threw the weight of his office behind his commitment to end the decades long pattern of neglect.

Initiative and Outcome: On July 30, 1999, as a direct result of Governor Foster’s leadership, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers launched a four-phase project to raise and strengthen the drainage system to meet standards, to provide seepage berms and relief wells, and to carry out appropriate mitigation and all-weather surfacing of the level crown. Total cost of the project was \$26 million, with the state responsible for 25 percent (\$6.5 million) of the total. In addition, cooperation between state and federal authorities resulted in Angola’s being named a site for the National Guard’s annual summer training exercises, during which Guard Units constructed 4000 feet of berm in a critical seepage area along the levee and continued levee improvements utilizing engineering plans developed by the Corp of Engineers.

Stay tuned for next month article on “**Governor and Mrs. M.J. “Mike” Foster’s Project Clean-Up Program.**”

Positive Support

Submitted by Deborah Shirley

 Dixon Correctional Institute was delighted to have Baton Rouge City Constable Reginald Brown speak to the inmates in the "Going Home" program and members of the P.R.I.D.E. organization on Tuesday, January 21, 2003. Constable Brown stressed the importance of family, community and church. He also called upon the inmates to take responsibility for their actions; stay focused on their goals and advised them to call on their support system. He encouraged the inmates to meet with their local minister as soon as they are released to help ensure they have positive support and reinforcement from the community. Taking advantage of programs offered in prison was also an important part of his message.

The inmates were eager for the opportunity to speak with Mr. Brown afterwards and he was more than willing to stay and listen. Several took advantage of having their picture taken with Mr. Brown.



Pictured are from left to right: Joey Simon, D'Anna Lawton, Major Reginald Brown, Deborah Shirley, Warden James LeBlanc and Bill Carville


The Going Home program is a federally funded, three-year grant, which furthers the CORE philosophy. The primary goals of the Going Home program are to prevent re-offending, enhance

public safety, redeploys and leverage existing community resources by fostering linkages and accessing currently provided services, and assist the offender to avoid crime, engage in pro-social community activities and meet family responsibilities.


Community leaders will be invited to the prison each month to help motivate inmates prior to their release back into the community. Soliciting involvement of agencies, organizations, groups and individuals throughout the state to join as partners in preparing for and supporting the offenders return to society is key to the success of CORE.

100 and Still Running

Submitted by Genie Powers

 Cecil Goudeau, of Probation and Parole Headquarters, recently completed his 100th marathon. That's over 2600 running miles. He has also ran a marathon in over forty states; his goal is to run one marathon in all fifty states.

Ten Years and Going Strong


 The staff of Elayn Hunt Correctional Center has again won the Our Lady of the Lake Blood Bank Award for the "**Most Outstanding Government Participation Group.**" This is the tenth year running that they have been honored with this award.

Warden Marty Lensing writes to his staff, "The continued support and participation by you in the semi-annual blood drives at EHCC is what makes this recognition possible.

He also shared with his staff his appreciation for "Giving to such a worthy cause and representing EHCC as one of the best governmental agencies in the Greater Baton Rouge area."

Making a Difference

Submitted by Jean Wall

 The annual National Crime Victims' Rights Week observance is set for April 6, 2003 – April 12, 2003, and already several units have announced their plans to honor crime victims. Louisiana State Penitentiary will educate visitors who tour the prison about crime victims rights week and will encourage students to sign the "The Violence Stops With Me" book at the museum.

Shreveport District Probation and Parole/Adult is teaming with the Victim Assistance Coordinators (VACs) in the Caddo District Attorney's Office. Their intent is to increase staff awareness of victim needs and issues by hosting an impact speaker who recently lost a child to violence.

Inmates who have been part of Dixon Correctional Institute's Restorative Justice/Victim Awareness Group are raffling two items (a 26" 18-Speed mountain bike, donated by VETS Incarcerated, and an original, framed oil painting (a still life with magnolia) with the proceeds going to benefit crime victims. The inmates have chosen this as one way to make a positive contribution in response to people who have been injured by crime. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each, please contact Jean Wall at 225.342.1056.

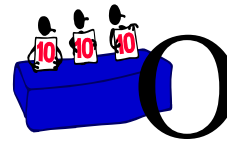
Your Are Invited



Assistant Secretary Elijah Lewis of Youth Development cordially invites you to attend a dedication ceremony at the

Louis Jetson Correctional Center for Youth on Friday, March 7, 2003 at 9:30 a.m. They will be dedicating the new juvenile training academies in honor of Mr. Don E. Wydra. Mr. Wydra was a former Assistant Secretary for the Office of Youth Development who died in 1998.

Informative Youth

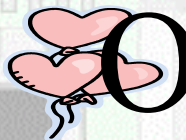


On January 24, 2003, Bridge City hosted an informational program and tour of the facility for the entire Juvenile Court Staff of Jefferson Parish. The youth at BCCY coordinated both the informational program and the tour.

Judge Janzen and her staff were greatly impressed with the cleanliness, well-kept grounds and friendly staff they encountered on their tour. Judge Janzen commented that she was "truly encouraged to see "her kids" looking so well, and what she saw in them was a sense of pride and self-esteem she had not seen before."

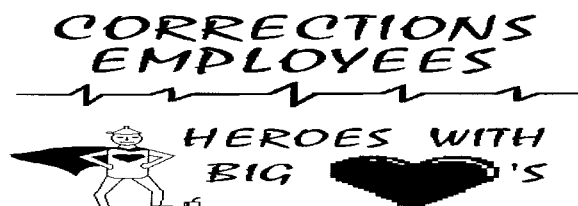
As well as stating how much she and her staff appreciate the working relationship with the warden and the staff at BCCY, Judge Janzen further stated, "May God bless you in your work, and may you continue to help our children strive for excellence." Judge Janzen commented that their goals were the same – to produce productive, happy and healthy members of this community.

Get Your T-Shirt



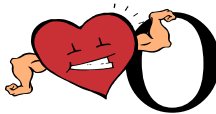
Order your T-Shirt now!!! All proceeds to benefit the American Heart Association. The cost of the T-Shirt is \$10.00 (cash only). The color of the shirt is white and the logo on the front of the shirt is pictured below. Orders must be received by the close of business on March 10, 2003. Sizes are Small, Medium, Large, and Extra-Large to 4X.

American Heart Association
PRINTING: LINDA L. LEE AND DESIGN



Heart Heroes

Submitted by Jean Roan



OYD's Team Captain, Jean Roan has discovered that there are many **Heart Heroes** in the Office of Youth Development. These **Heart Heroes** has enthusiastically embraced the challenge of raising funds for the American Heart Association (AHA) by having several fund raising activities. Fundraisers have included a Super Bowl Pep Rally; Country Store and Bake Sale with vendors from Southern Living, Avon, Rolling Hills Boutique and Home Interior; a Chocolate Basket Auction and a Heart to Heart Count Contest with 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes to be given away on March 21, 2003.

AHA Heart Hero Wall Heart Sale, and the Krewe of OYD Parade rolled on February 28, 2003. A small casket was built and donated by Louisiana State Penitentiary, which will be used in the parade to symbolize their goal of helping the American Heart Association eradicate heart disease and related illnesses. The parade will conclude with the distribution of red beans and rice dinners that were sold in conjunction with this function.

Hats off to OYD's Team Leaders who have spearheaded and worked hard on these fundraisers: Holly Clancy, Juanita Franklin, Lynne Geromini, Angila Jones, Thomas Hollins, Phyllis Martello, Amy Primes and Lynn Toussaint.

A special thanks to Mr. Elijah L. Lewis, OYD Assistant Secretary and the whole OYD team who has supported them financially and have cheered them on in their fun-raising efforts. An OYD Heart Rally will be held on March 21, 2003. Walkers will also be raising additional funds in the Heart Walk on March 22, 2003. Funds raised thus far total over \$1200.00 and **RISING**.

Employee's Recognition



Dixon Correctional Institute (DCI), and Washington Correctional Institute (WCI), recognized the following employees for January Monthly Awards:

DCI

Master Sergeant Earnest Hall - Security

WCI

Master Sergeant Jessie Strickland- Security

Quarterly and Yearly Recognition



Recipients of Dixon Correctional Institute (DCI), Washington Correctional Institute (WCI) and Swanson Correctional Center-Monroe (SCCY) Quarterly and Yearly Employee Awards were:

DCI - 4th Quarter Awards

Richard Courtney – Support
Lieutenant Clifton Chaney – Supervisor

DCI - Yearly Awards

Richard Courtney – Support
Captain Tyrone Kilbourne – Supervisor
Keannie Hutchinson – Security

DCI - Distinguished Service Award

Sergeant Glasscock – Security

WCI – Warden's Award of Excellence

Assistant Warden Kathleen McGinnisport

SCCY-MONROE - Yearly Awards

Fredrick McHenry – Support
Lieutenant Colonel Donald Greely – Supervisor
Sergeant Larry Moore – Security

